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THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DELEGATION

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Montgomery County Delegation 2011 Session Member Accomplishments

Montgomery County Senate Delegation:

Senator Richard Madaleno (District 18), Chair, Montgomery County Senate Delegation:

- As Chairman of the Education, Business, and Administration Subcommittee of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, Senator Madaleno helped secure a \$40 million increase in state funding for Montgomery County Public Schools. This represents a 7.6% increase from last year and 5 times the state average.
- As a principal sponsor of the effort to secure greater funding for the developmental disabilities community, Senator Madaleno led the effort to increase the alcohol sales tax rate by 3%. Revenue from the increase will immediately be used to provide relief for those with the greatest need on the Developmental Disabilities Waiting List.
- As a champion for equal rights, Senator Madaleno led the fight for the passage of marriage equality. Over the past four years, he successfully laid the groundwork, which resulted in the Maryland Senate passing the Civil Marriage Protection Act this session. He is hopeful that the General Assembly will provide the freedom to marry for same gender couples in the 2012 legislative session.

Senator Jamie Raskin (District 20), Vice-Chair, Montgomery County Senate Delegation:

- **Drunk Driving Reduction Act** – Requires all convicted drunk drivers who register a .15+ on a blood alcohol test, all offenders who are given a second drunk driving conviction and anyone under 21 who registers any alcohol on their breath to have an ignition interlock breathalyzer device installed in their cars if they are going to continue to drive on Maryland roadways.
- **Cleaning Up Illegal Signs:** Authorizes counties and municipalities to help the State Highway Administration keep highways clear of illegal sign litter by empowering them to remove illegal signs and fine violators. SHA currently spends more than \$600,000 a year on the task and is overwhelmed by the amount of clutter and blight, which also constitute a traffic hazard.
- **Direct Wine Shipment:** Starting July 1, Marylanders will enjoy the same right as hundreds of millions of Americans in 37 states and the District of Columbia to have wine directly shipped to their homes from wineries in Maryland and from across the country.
- **Medical Marijuana Defense and Study:** With adoption of an affirmative medical necessity defense, severely ill patients who demonstrate a medical necessity for using marijuana no longer have to live in fear

of being fined and criminally convicted. The state will also study development of a “Maryland model” medical marijuana program in tandem with our major research institutions.

Senator Jennie M. Forehand (District 17):

- Introduced **SB 327 Human Trafficking Victim Protection Act** which will permit individuals to vacate a prostitution conviction if they prove they were victims of human trafficking, allowing them a better chance to rebuild their lives.
- Improved protections for those seeking relief from stalkers or abusers by introducing **SB 480 to increase the penalty for violating a Peace Order** with fines up to \$2,500 or imprisonment up to one year.
- Introduced **SB 516**, a bill that requires purchasers of **foreclosed residential property to notify tenants where to send their rent**. This addresses the increasing cases where banks or others have bought foreclosed property but do not inform tenants. After six or 8 months, the owners then **seek to evict tenants** for nonpayment of rent or demand payment in full.
- Together with Governor O’Malley, introduced **SB 883** establishing **the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program** in the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to address the growing abuse of prescription drugs.
- As member of conference committee, **helped craft a compromise** between the House and Senate versions of **SB174** addressing loopholes in the Maryland’s gun laws, specifically prohibiting convicted felons from possessing **any type of gun** and **increasing penalties** for using any gun in the commission on a crime.

Senator Brian E. Frosh (District 16):

Senator Frosh sponsored:

- A set of three bills cracking down on poaching, which is rampant in Maryland’s commercial fisheries. Two bills allow Department of Natural resources to revoke licenses of poachers in various fisheries after an administrative hearing. The third bill authorizes inspections of fish storage areas.
- A ban on Bisphenol A (BPA) in infant formula containers. BPA has long been thought to have links to breast and prostate cancer, diabetes, heart disease, and hyperactivity.
- Legislation aiding homeowners in foreclosure proceedings by ensuring accuracy of intent-to-foreclose notices.

Senator Rob Garagiola (District 15):

- **Promoted Further Cost Savings for Maryland Ratepayers Utilizing Solar Energy.**
→ Sponsored SB 717, which will facilitate solar energy development and green job growth in Maryland by allowing homeowners and businesses utilizing solar water heating systems to obtain credit for renewable energy returned to the electricity grid.
- **Expanded Incentives for Biofuel Usage.**
→ Successfully authored legislation (SB 959) that builds upon Garagiola’s 2008 initiative, which provided homeowners with a tax credit for Bioheat usage, by extending this credit for 5 years, and expanding the types of qualified biofuels.
→ Other measures will ensure that the current Maryland Clean Energy Incentive Tax Credit (SB 958) and State fleet biofuel usage requirements (SB 961) are more inclusive of these new sources of green fuels.

- **Pushed for Tougher Sexual Assault Standards.**

→ Sponsored legislation (SB 196) that subjects perpetrators of fourth degree sexual assault to a three year statute of limitations, which allows victims more time to come forward and have their chance at justice. Currently the statute of limitations for this offense is one year.

Senator Nancy J. King (District 39):

- Senator King was the lead Senate sponsor of legislation making child neglect a crime in Maryland. With the leadership of Lt. Governor Anthony Brown, we now have legislation that will criminalize the most heinous forms of intentional child neglect and will give social workers and prosecutors a powerful tool to protect children in communities around the state.
- Last fall, Senator King was alerted to a loophole in our Public Information Act laws that make it easy for those with nefarious purposes to obtain a senior citizen's personal information through their membership in Senior Activity Centers. Senator King sponsored successful legislation that will prohibit this private information from being released through a Public Information request and will protect our often vulnerable senior citizens.
- To promote the use of alternative energy sources in our state, our tax codes must keep pace with industry advances. Senator King sponsored successful legislation that will exempt from state sales tax, solar and wind energy produced in residential properties. Passage of this legislation will encourage the use of these clean and renewable energy sources.
- Along with passing state-wide legislation, Senator King was successful in securing funding for four important District 39 projects. They include safety lighting upgrades in Lewisberry Drive Corridor; storm water management renovations in Glenbrooke; stabilization and restoration of the Battleridge Place stream valley and repairs and installation of pavilions in the Seneca Park North Community.

Senator Roger Manno (District 19):

- Budget Amendments: As a member of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, I authored several successful amendments to the State Budget, including mandated studies to: (1) identify funding solutions for co-occurring health care disorders, and; (2) to establish a sustainable pension plan for thoroughbred racing employees.
- Penalties for Violations of Phosphorous Ban (SB 751): Phosphorous is a dangerous and illegal chemical that is a major cause of Chesapeake Bay blight. After introducing legislation in both the House and the Senate, we passed SB 751 to substantially increase penalties for ongoing violations of the 2007 phosphorous detergent ban.
- Penalties for Retaliatory Evictions (SB 620): Current law provides few protections from retaliation to tenants who report housing violations. That's why we introduced and passed SB 620, to strengthen protections for tenants, while also mitigating undue litigation, harassment and fraudulent complaints.
- Bond Funding: I partnered with Dels. Kramer, Arora and Cullison to secure funding for the following 19th District capital projects: B'nai B'rith Homecrest House (\$119,000); Orthodox Congregation of Silver Spring (\$48,000), Cardinal McCarrick Center (\$150,000).

Senator Karen S. Montgomery (District 14):

- SB 280- Creation of a State Debt- Montgomery County- Olney Theatre Center: This bond bill awards the Olney Theatre Center for the Arts a matching grant of \$150,000 which is designated for the payment of the construction of Olney Theatre Center's main stage building.
- SB 203- Health Care Decisions Act- "Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment" Form: This form will contain a physician's or nurse practitioner's medical orders relating to a patient's medical condition, including orders regarding the use of life sustaining procedures as well as treatment decisions made by the patient's family members.
- SB 786- Health- Newborn Screening Program- Critical Congenital Heart Disease: Currently there is no standard screening mechanism for critical congenital heart disease for all newborns in the hospital nursery and this bill requires the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to adopt federal recommendations regarding screening procedures for newborns.
- SB 320- Environment- Phosphorous- Commercial Dishwashing Detergent: This legislation prohibits a person from selling, manufacturing or distributing commercial dishwashing detergent that contains greater than 0.5 percent of phosphorous by weight. This regulation will help to further remove harmful phosphorous from our water supply.

Montgomery County House Delegation:

Delegate Brian J. Feldman (District 15), Chair, Montgomery County House Delegation:

- In collaboration with Governor O'Malley, introduced and gained passage of emergency legislation to mandate reliability standards for electric companies doing business in Maryland, including Pepco, and establishing financial penalties for electric companies which fail to meet those standards;
- Introduced and gained passage of legislation to update, clarify and modernize our corporate laws in several important areas. These updates will allow Maryland corporations to compete more effectively with businesses incorporated in other states; and
- As Chair of the Montgomery County House Delegation, helped secure a \$40 million increase in K-12 funding for the County and also worked to secure over \$2.5 million in bond bill funding for County projects to create local jobs and support our parks, recreation, charitable and cultural organizations.

Delegate Susan C. Lee (District 16), Vice-Chair, Montgomery County House Delegation:

- **As President of the Women's Caucus,** led caucus' efforts to support and pass bills to empower women and families, provide greater access to health care, family planning, and parity in girls' juvenile services, protect victims of domestic violence, abuse, sexual assault & human trafficking, and place Harriet Tubman's statue in National Statuary Hall.
- **HB 666:** Authored & passed bill updating the peace order law by increasing penalties to up to 1 year imprisonment and/or \$2,500 fine for repeat violations of a peace order; making it consistent with the protective order statute. The law will help deter repeat violations, particularly in cases of a dating relationship involving ongoing violence and abuse.
- **HB 667:** Authored & passed bill authorizing a judge to extend for good cause the duration of a peace order for additional 6 months after providing notice to the parties and a hearing; thereby allowing the court

to better fashion the order's duration to meet the specific circumstances of the case and prevent domestic violence and abuse.

- **HB 665:** Authored/passed bill to create a Maryland Commission on Cyber Security Innovation & Excellence to provide a comprehensive overview and develop proactive, coordinated, rapid response strategies to cyber attacks against state computer systems/infrastructures and a Road Map to make Maryland the leader in cyber security innovation & excellence.

Delegate Sam Arora (District 19):

- Sponsored and passed legislation which adds a penalty for obliterating an identification mark on a regulated firearm. This closes a loophole that criminals have used to challenge convictions in court.
- Worked to pass legislation requiring all passengers in a car to wear a seatbelt. Given its defeat, we hope to pass this legislation in 2012.
- Worked with the other members of the District 19 Delegation to sponsor needed bond funding for our community.

Delegate Charles Barkley (District 39):

Legislation Passed:

- **HB 1175 Alcohol Beverages – Direct Wine Shipping** will allow out of state and instate wineries to ship to private individuals in the state. Retailers are not allowed to ship to a private residence and it does not allow for the shipping of gift baskets or wine of the month clubs unless these come from wineries.
- **HB 752 Maryland Correctional Enterprises – Prohibiting Access to Personal Information** denies prisoners' access to individuals' social security numbers and credit card and other financial information. Prisoners allowed to perform data entry will continue to do so but this information will no longer be on the forms.
- **HB 1180 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene – Certificates of Foreign Birth – IH-3 Visa** (crossfiled by Senator King) adds the IH-3 Visa to the list of those recognized by the State of Maryland in foreign adoptions.

Delegate Alfred C. Carr, Jr. (District 18):

- Building on his efforts to strengthen Maryland's environmental and energy policies, Delegate Al Carr reconvened and served as House Chair of the Green Caucus, a group of legislators committed to sharing information and ideas about legislation to make Maryland a more environmentally friendly state.
- Delegate Carr believes in the principle that the public has the right to know what its government is doing and why. He is proud to have worked with Senator Madaleno to secure passage of **SB740**, the Electronic Sunshine Act. This bill updates Maryland's sunshine law, the Maryland Public Information Act, to require that public agencies share public documents in their original electronic format. The passage of this measure will improve government transparency and update Maryland's law as have 24 other states and the federal government.
- Secured passage of **HB643**, a bill that promises to conserve energy, save money and help preserve the night sky by encouraging the use of energy efficient outdoor light fixtures at state facilities.

- Worked with his District 18 legislative colleagues to secure State funding for the Noyes Children's Library, the MacDonald Knolls Center and the Warner Manor projects.

Delegate Bonnie Cullison (District 19):

Bonnie Cullison was assigned to the Health and Government Operations committee.

- Sponsored the Human Trafficking Awareness Training and Distribution law which promotes the collaboration of the Departments of Education and Health and Mental Hygiene to share information and training on how to recognize the signs of domestic or sexual servitude in students in our classrooms.
- Worked with the lieutenant governor's team to assure that public health and consumers were well represented in the development of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange.
- Worked with the state agencies to help with debris clean up after storms and to monitor traffic patterns and issues related to the opening of the ICC.
- Co-sponsored and worked with other legislators to pass legislation important to the district, such as enabling direct wine sales, accountability for public utility companies and delay of financial penalties for not meeting Maintenance of Effort in the schools, which would save the county \$26 million this year.

Delegate Kathleen M. Dumais (District 15):

- Served as primary sponsor of legislation directing the Department of Juvenile Services to provide a report by the end of the year explaining how it will provide girls in the juvenile justice system equal treatment. Currently, girls do not receive the same level and quality of programs and services that boys receive.
- With the aim of minimizing the trauma of child victims, sponsored legislation expanding the list of qualified professionals who may testify concerning an out of court statement by an abused child. It also allows a recording of the statement as evidence and raises the age limit of victims who have these protections from 11 years to 12 years.

As Judiciary Committee Vice Chair, Delegate Dumais:

- Played a key role in achieving final passage of a bill to increase the use of ignition interlocks for drivers with blood alcohol content of .15 or above; drivers who have been convicted of a second drunk driving offense; and drivers under 21 years old who have consumed any alcohol.
- Collaborated in securing final passage of a bill criminalizing child neglect that endangers a child's physical health or risks mental injury. The new law enhances the services provided to at risk families and children, and requires law enforcement intervention when such action is necessary to keep children safe.

Delegate C. William Frick (District 16):

- Lead sponsor of **HB 482**, legislation to give further credit card protections to consumers by limiting the number of digits printed on the merchant's copy of a receipt from eight to five.
- Lead sponsor of common sense, good government legislation **HB 620** (passed the House only) and **HB 1233** (passed both chambers) designed to save our state resources and streamline government efficiency.
- As Chairman of the Revenues Subcommittee of the Ways and Means Committee, led the passage of the Governor's business and economic development initiative, the *InvestMaryland Program* through the House of Delegates.

- Helped to secure funding for the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington's Theatre Renovations project.
- Introduced legislation to remove Pepco as the electric service provider of Montgomery County. Co-sponsored legislation to give the Public Service Commission authority to impose harsher penalties on Pepco when reliability standards are not met.

Delegate Jim Gilchrist (District 17):

- HB 273 provides the Department of Natural Resources with the authority to revoke an oyster license if the licensee is illegally harvesting oysters. The University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science estimates that most Maryland oyster sanctuaries have been poached.
- This year the Department of Natural Resources temporarily closed the fishing season for striped bass after finding illegal nets containing over 20,000 pounds of striped bass near the entrance to Eastern Bay. HB 1154 allows DNR to revoke striped bass and crab licenses for those found to be stealing striped bass and crabs.
- Also in response to the news of poaching in the Chesapeake Bay, HB 1225 establishes a new misdemeanor for those who violate natural resources licensing laws whether they do so on a revoked or suspended license or no license at all.

Delegate Ana Sol Gutiérrez (District 18):

- Helped to pass the 2011 MD Dream Act, HB470/SB 167, which grants Maryland undocumented students access to in-state tuition at MD community colleges.
- Sponsored a series of bills to demonstrate that Maryland is NOT Arizona –including prohibition of racial profiling by law enforcement, HB 1236; reducing hand gun capacity to 10 bullets per magazine, HB 330; in-state tuition to undocumented students; and rejecting many extremist anti-immigrant proposals.
- Introduced progressive reform bills to establish a Statewide Dropout Prevention Task Force, HB 810; and a bill to study the establishment of a Maryland State Public Bank, HB 1066.
- Worked on the House Appropriations Committee to prepare a balanced 2012 Operating Budget. Fought to protect funding for welfare programs and health and human services for the most vulnerable in our society: the poor, needy children and families, unemployed, uninsured, and developmentally disabled individuals.

Delegate Sheila E. Hixson (District 20):

Chair, Ways and Means Committee

- HB 858 Education – Youth Sports – Concussions: This bill ensures that our student athletes, coaches and parents receive vital head injury-related information. Students who are suspected of sustaining a head injury will be removed from play and cannot return unless authorized by a medical professional. This bill creates greater safety awareness and protects our students.
- HB 1028 Financial Institutions – ATM Machines Video Cameras: More than ever, people are using ATM machines for their primary banking needs. This bill ensures that every ATM in Maryland will have a security camera. This bill ensures a safer environment at our State's ATM's and a greater chance at solving the crimes that do take place there.

- **HB 869 Education – Maintenance of Effort – Penalty:** This bill delays the penalty for a county's failure to meet the public schools' Maintenance of Effort requirement until the next fiscal year. This bill recognizes that counties who are already under serious fiscal pressure will require more time and planning to get education funding back on track.
- **Ways & Means Committee:** All Maryland students are now eligible for in-state tuition at Maryland colleges. Maryland will now invest in innovative, home-grown companies that create jobs and ensure our state's competitive economic edge. Most importantly, school construction and mental health services will now receive vital funding from new revenue sources.

Delegate Tom Hucker (District 20):

- **Newborn Screening for Critical Congenital Heart Disease (HB714/SB786)** This bill will require all Maryland hospitals, as part of their newborn screening procedures, to screen all newborns for congenital heart disease, the most common birth defect. The procedure is non-invasive and costs only about \$1.00 per test. The bill will save many lives and help address our high infant mortality.
- **Household Goods Movers - Estimates and Charges (HB1134)** protects consumers against unscrupulous moving companies that provide moving services *within* the State of Maryland. This bill prevents movers from charging customers more than 125% of the original estimate.
- **Maryland Offshore Wind Energy Act (HB1054/SB861).** Delegate Hucker was the House lead sponsor of this Administration bill. The bill didn't pass in 2011, but we're hoping for success next session. Bringing off-shore wind to Maryland will create green jobs in the state and give us an energy future which is cleaner, greener, more sustainable, and more affordable.
- **Direct Wine Shipment (HB1175):** The General Assembly finally approved the sale of wine directly to Maryland consumers. Del. Hucker led the effort to pass this bill the last four years, which was supported by Del. Barkley and the rest of the County delegation. This will increase tax revenues for the state and allow Maryland wineries to expand.
- **Puppymill regulation (HB940/SB839):** Along with the Humane Society and Girl Scout Troop # 6811 of Sandy Spring, we have the first regulation of large commercial dog breeders in the state. Puppymills can cost the state and counties money in cleanup and the loss of revenue from these black market operators.

Delegate Anne R. Kaiser (District 14):

- This year I passed legislation codifying rules to protect teachers from discrimination. I also championed bills that passed the House of Delegates regarding bullying in our schools and how elected officials use campaign funds.
- I am proud to work with my colleagues from district 14 to bring \$250,000 to help aid the Olney Theatre Center and the Olney Boys & Girls Club -- supporting the great work they do for our diverse community.
- As chair of the Education Subcommittee, I had the challenge of defending and supporting the in-state tuition bill for undocumented immigrants. This bill helps ensure that all Marylanders have access to a higher education at a fair price.

- As Chief Deputy Majority Whip, I aided the Speaker of the House of Delegates in his efforts to support the biggest challenges that face the state, including the alcohol tax, same-sex marriage, energy efficiency measures, closing the budget deficit and increasing the number of jobs in Maryland.

Delegate Ariana Kelly (District 16):

- **Consumer Protection:** Authored and passed HB 496, legislation expanding the definition of life insurance to allow for new combined products that protect consumers, including a rider that prevents policy lapses during unemployment, and allowing coverage for certain health conditions. This consumer friendly legislation was supported by state regulators and insurance companies.
- **Social Services and Job Training:** Helped secure \$335,000 for the Jewish Social Service Agency to finish construction on a facility to allow expansion of organization's programs in Montgomery County. JSSA provides much needed social service programming for seniors and children, and provides job training for those who are unemployed or underemployed.
- **Civil Rights:** Lead Co-Sponsor for HB 235, the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Anti-Discrimination Act. This legislation expands legal protections by including lesbian, gay, and transgender Marylanders in existing housing, employment, and credit anti-discrimination laws. HB 235 passed the House by a significant margin, but did not pass the General Assembly after the Senate voted to send the bill back to the judicial proceedings committee.
- **Health Care:** Lead sponsor of HB 811, legislation requiring insurance companies to extend coverage for physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy for young adults born with congenital or genetic birth defects, including autism and cerebral palsy.

Delegate Eric Luedtke (District 14):

- In 2008, the General Assembly created a farm to school program, named after the late Delegate Jane Lawton. **HB 751** requires that school systems report to the Department of Agriculture the types and quantities of local food they purchase annually. This information gives the public a way to measure the program's success.
- Human trafficking is a troubling issue affecting many Maryland youth. This session, I worked with Delegate Cullison to pass **HB 674**, which requires the State Department of Education to work with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to provide awareness, training, and materials on human trafficking to local school systems.
- **Local Bond Bills** – Senator Montgomery, Delegates Kaiser and Zucker, and I worked together to obtain funds for two District 14 projects:
 - \$150,000 for the construction of the main stage building at Olney Theatre Center
 - \$150,000 for the renovation of Falling Green at OBGC Park

Delegate Aruna Miller (District 15):

- As a first year freshman delegate, recognized the importance of working with others, particularly Montgomery County Delegation and District 15 Senator Garagiola and Delegates Feldman and Dumais.
- Lead Sponsor of HB 529 to stop unwanted white pages directories from being automatically delivered and instead provides the citizens of Maryland a choice—a choice to opt-in. In Maryland over 2.7 million white pages directories are distributed each year, much of which ends up in landfills. A telephone user may

request a free copy by calling a toll free number, upon a request, a white page directory will be distributed every year thereafter.

- Lead sponsor of HB 724 which increases the statute of limitations for fourth degree sexual offenses, engaging in nonconsensual sexual contact, involving a victim who was a minor at the time of the offense from one year to three years. This bill resulted from a request (to Senator Rob Garagiola) by District 15 constituents.

Delegate Heather R. Mizeur (District 20):

- **Family Planning Works Act (HB 778)** – Thousands of women face unplanned pregnancies each year because family planning services are out-of-reach. Heather sponsored this bill to enable Maryland to provide family planning services to an estimated 33,000 low-income women, saving the state \$40 million a year due to the reductions in unintended pregnancies.
- **Funding nanobiotechnology investments** – In 2008, Heather passed legislation that created the Coordinating Emerging Nanobiotechnology Research (CENTR) Program. This science uses advanced engineering to combat cancer and other diseases. Heather secured \$2.4 million for CENTR to help create jobs and make Maryland a leading force in this field.
- **Earned Income Credit Information Act (HB 632)** – Each year, federal and state Earned Income Tax Credits lift more than 4 million Americans out of poverty, yet thousands fail to claim their credits each year. Delegate Mizeur sponsored this bill to reverse this trend by requiring employers to notify workers that they may qualify for these credits.
- **Continued progress on government transparency (HB 766)** – To build on last year's success on government transparency, Heather passed the Joint Committee on Transparency and Open Government Act to create a central legislative body to coordinate transparency policies for all branches of state government.

Delegate Kirill Reznik (District 39):

- The Job Applicant Fairness Act passed restricting a company's ability to use credit history information in the hiring process. Many people have had their credit histories ruined because of the recession. Having bad credit does not make someone a bad person. My bill will help people find jobs to right their finances.
- As part of my ongoing efforts to help released prison inmates get substance abuse treatment plans needed to not revert to old habits, I brought together the Governor's cabinet secretaries of the relevant departments to come up with a plan creating a better system between departments in looking after these individuals.
- Working with my committee, we passed House Bill 166, establishing the governance, structure, and funding of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, an independent unit of government designed to reduce the number of uninsured and facilitate the purchase and sale of qualified health plans in the individual market.

Delegate Shane Robinson (District 39):

Delegate Robinson passed 3 bills in his first session:

- **HB-329** (cross-filed by Senator Nancy King) exempts senior centers from the public information act. Prior to this bill, predatory marketers could force senior centers to hand over the private information of their members. Thanks to HB-329 that is no longer the case in Maryland.

- **HB-881** sets up a regulatory framework for the bio-diesel/waste kitchen grease industry. If we are to successfully urge consumers to seek out greener energy sources, we need to address the issues that arise as a result. This bill targets the issue of waste kitchen grease theft from restaurants.
- **HB-831** was initially conceived of by 8 year-old Jacob Robinson (no relation to Delegate Robinson). It sets up a system through the Department of Natural Resources to curb the spread of invasive plants species. Invasive plants harm the environment and the economy; this bill will help get them under control.

Delegate Jeff Waldstreicher (District 18):

- A longtime advocate for Maryland's children, Delegate Waldstreicher authored HB 38 to crack down on bullying in schools. Working with a diverse coalition, he crafted legislation that requires schools to develop comprehensive anti-bullying policies. This bill passed both the House and Senate and awaits the Governor's signature.
- Delegate Waldstreicher authored the Healthy Kids, Healthy Maryland Act to reduce exposure to toxins. This pragmatic approach creates a comprehensive list of dangerous chemicals and empowers MDE to replace the worst of these with safe alternatives. Although the bill did not pass this session, he plans to reintroduce it in 2012.
- A member of the Judiciary Committee and its Criminal Justice Subcommittee, Delegate Waldstreicher passed HB 227. This legislation will dramatically reduce animal cruelty by banning convicted animal abusers from owning pets. The bill passed both chambers unanimously and will be signed by the Governor.
- A recognized leader on victims' rights, Delegate Waldstreicher was the author and lead sponsor of the Human Trafficking Victim Protection Act to assist victims of labor and sex trafficking. As drafted, HB 266 provides restitution to victims of this heinous crime. The legislation passed both the House of Delegates and the Senate.

Delegate Craig Zucker (District 14):

- As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, helped to reduce the structural deficit by more than 42% and worked with the District 14 team to secure over \$400,000 for community projects in the district.
- In the Transportation and the Environment Subcommittee, assisted in increasing transportation funding for Montgomery County and retained more than \$25 million in additional dollars for the Chesapeake Bay Trust Fund over the next five years.
- Sponsored and passed House Bill 1184, which made our state government more efficient by streamlining the Maryland Department of Transportation's employee grievance procedures, saving the state time and resources.

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